

Amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising a controllable flow rate, filtered, vent for an ostomy pouch, the vent having a plurality of outlets and a device for controlling the rate of flow of gas through the vent, the device comprising adhesive sticker means which can be positioned and re-positioned to selectively expose or cover one or more of the plurality of outlets, and thereby regulate variably the rate of flow of gas according to the outlets exposed, and an adhesive wafer for directly or indirectly securing the ostomy pouch to a person's skin, wherein the wafer, or a cover layer provided on the wafer, is provided with guidelines for enabling a person to cut the wafer to a desired aperture size, the guidelines including at least one generally circular guideline, and at least one generally non-circular guideline having a race-track shape.
2. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the flow rate is controllable according to the number of outlets exposed.
3. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the sticker means comprises a sticker dimensioned so that it is of sufficient size to be able to cover all of the outlets.
4. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein one or more of the outlets comprises a hole in a layer to which the sticker means is adherable.
5. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein one or more of the outlets comprises a clearance between one or more outlets, or weld segments.
6. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a flow restricting layer provided upstream of the outlets.
7. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the vent includes aperture means having a plurality of ~~aperture~~ apertures for outletting gas through said vent, and a flow restricting layer upstream of the aperture means.
8. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the aperture means comprises a plurality of individual vent apertures.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the sticker means comprises a plurality of stickers or sticker segments.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the sticker means is positioned or positionable to selectively block all of the area of the aperture means.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the flow restricting layer comprises microporous material.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the pouch comprises a first wall provided with the vent and with a comfort layer.

Claims 13-23 (Canceled)

24. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an adhesive wafer for securing the pouch to a person's skin, wherein the wafer, or a cover layer provided on the wafer, is provided with guidelines for enabling a person to cut the wafer to a desired aperture size, the guidelines including at least one generally circular guideline and at least one generally non-circular guideline.

25. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising an adhesive wafer for securing the pouch to a person's skin, wherein the wafer, or a cover layer provided on the wafer, is provided with guidelines for enabling a person to cut the wafer to a desired aperture size, the guidelines including at least one generally circular guideline and at least one generally non-circular guideline.

Claims 26-29 (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) The apparatus according to claim 28, wherein a plurality of the circular guidelines and plurality of the non-circular guidelines are provided.

Claims 31-32 (Canceled)

33. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a~~ An apparatus comprising a controllable flow rate, filtered, vent for an ostomy pouch, the vent having a plurality of outlets and a device for controlling the rate of flow of gas through the vent, the device comprising adhesive sticker means which can be positioned and re-positioned to selectively expose or cover one or more of the plurality of outlets, and thereby regulate variably the rate of flow of gas according to the outlets exposed, and a body-side device for attachment to an ostomy pouch, the body-side device comprising an adhesive wafer for directly or indirectly securing the ostomy pouch to a person's skin, and a coupling portion for releasable fastening to the pouch, wherein the wafer, or a cover layer provided on the wafer, is provided with guidelines for enabling a person to cut the wafer to a desired aperture size, the guidelines including at least one generally circular guideline, and at least one generally non-circular guideline, and wherein the wafer is secured to the coupling portion around a closed loop line of attachment, the line of attachment is defined by a combination of a circular shape and a race-track shape, the combined shape corresponding to a silhouette of one superimposed on the other ~~having a shape which is non-circular and non-race-track.~~

Claim 34 (Canceled) .

35. (Withdrawn) Use of adhesive sticker means to control variably the vent flow rate through a filtered vent for an ostomy pouch, the vent having a plurality of outlets, and the sticker means being positionable to selectively expose or cover one or more of the plurality of outlets, to thereby regulate the gas flow rate according to the outlets exposed.

36. (Withdrawn) Use according to claim 35, wherein the flow rate is determined by the number of outlets exposed.

37. (Withdrawn) A method of controlling variably the flow rate through a filtered vent of an ostomy pouch, the method comprising positioning sticker means to selectively expose or block one or more of a plurality of outlets of the vent, the regulate the gas flow rate according to the outlets exposed.